

GYA Working Group on Global Health

Participation in 2018 World Health Summit

Three members from the GYA working group on “Global Health”, [Meghnath Dhimal](#) (Nepal), [Stefan Kohler](#) (Germany) and [Stefania Mondello](#) (Italy) participated in the World Health Summit 2018 in Berlin, Germany, in October 2018.

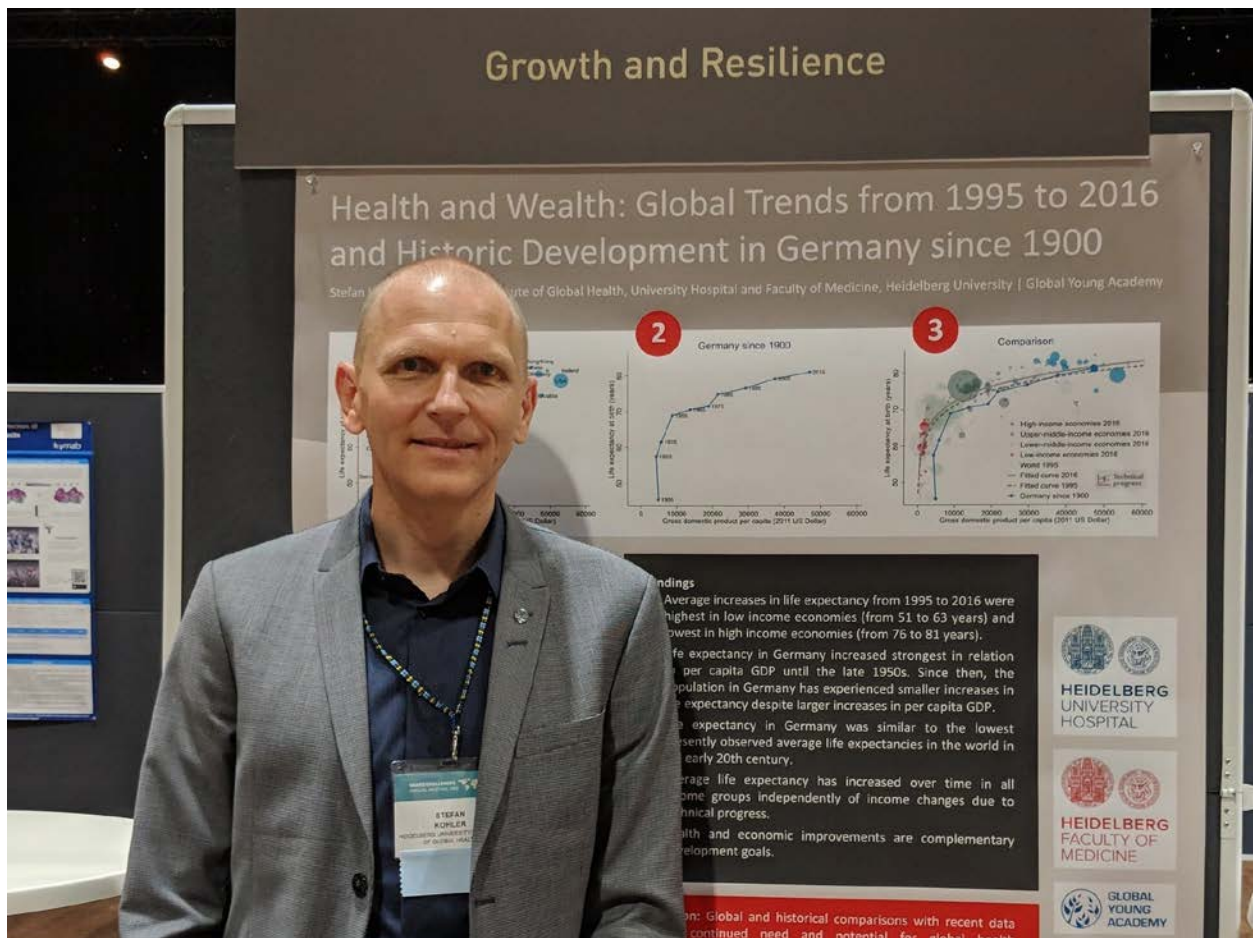
The World Health Summit, including the joint inauguration with the Grand Challenges Meeting of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, was attended by 2,400 participants. During the Summit, 300 speakers from 100 countries gave presentations in 50 sessions.

The Summit concluded that a holistic and science-driven approach to solving the global health challenges is urgent and for this, public and global health funding need to increase. Summit participants also discussed that the definition of ‘health’ needed to be redefined. It should be very broad including a number of determinants of health such as religion. The need to address the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in a holistic way was also emphasized, using health as an entry point and creating new partnerships between academies, emblematic places, funding organizations and religious, political and/or educational organizations and networks. Moreover, the role of the GYA as a scientific organization with the potential to promote global health was discussed in the Summit, for example in the respect and dialogue session, which is an initiative by the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP). During the Summit, members of the GYA discussed potential collaboration opportunities in the field of global health with IAP and with World Health Summit officials.



Global Health working group members Meghnath Dhimal, Stefania Mondello and Stefan Kohler with GYA member Robert Lepeniec (second from right).

Working group member Stefan also participated in the 2018 Grand Challenges Annual Meeting, which partially overlapped with this year's 10th World Health Summit in Berlin. Grand Challenges is a family of initiatives, supported by the Gates Foundation, fostering innovation to solve key global health and development problems (<https://grandchallenges.org>). Stefan presented a poster as a "Rising Star" scientist on "Health and Wealth: Global Trends from 1995-2016 and historic development in Germany since 1900", in which he showed that comparisons of standardized health and wealth indicators have shown that wealth and health are closely interrelated across countries as well as overtime.



Stefan Kohler at the Grand Challenges Annual Meeting 2018

In the run-up to the 2018 World Health Summit, Stefania and GYA-nominated Mohamed Abou-El-Enein (Charité Berlin) participated in the 8th InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) for Health Young Physician Leaders (YPL) Programme, which trains participants to examine fundamental leadership and managerial issues in the health sector and share experiences and stories from the perspective of physicians who joined from all over the world.